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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Poland

DO NOT CIRCULATE

25X SUBJECT Powder and Ammunition Factory
at Pionki

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. A powder and ammunition factory is located at Pionki (R52/L30), a town on the Radom-Deblin railroad line, about twenty-four kilometers from Radom. It covers an area measuring about three by four kilometers and it lies in the forest south of the railroad. It was built before the war and was the largest of its kind in Poland. During the war, the Germans greatly enlarged it. After the war, the present Polish regime equipped the factory for the production of all kinds of gunpowder and other types of powder, as well as special kinds of ammunition. The factory is now called the Fabryka Chemiczna 25X1
2. The factory is entirely surrounded by two rows of barbed wire fencing, about three meters high. Between the two fences are specially trained dogs belonging to the KBW (Internal Security Corps). The factory's five entrances are guarded by KBW sentries; KBW men also man several observation towers which are equipped with automatic rifles and machine guns. The factory itself is divided into several sections or departments; these sections are separated from one another by walls and barbed wire and are guarded by sentries and dogs. In order to go from one section to another, authorization of the sections concerned must be obtained.
- 25X1 3. Among the factory buildings is a large emplacement where four large caliber guns are mounted. workers at the factory call them haubica (howitzer); the guns are always over 100 mm. caliber. The guns are manned by KBW artillery troops and are intended for antiaircraft defense. From time to time, they are practice-fired at aircraft based at Radom or at Deblin.
4. A total of about 15,000 workers are employed at the factory.¹ They are split up into three shifts a day. The workers live in the factory settlement at Pionki and in the nearby villages; some of them also come from Radom and Deblin.

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Beginning in March 1952, living quarters for workers were built at Pionki by a group of laborers who had previously been engaged in the construction of Nowa Huta foundry at Krakow. Later, the construction of workers' housing at Pionki was taken over by the state firm for housing construction (Zjednoczone Budownictwo Mieszkalne).

- 25X1 5. A plan exists to enlarge the factory in the direction of Radom. During the
spring of 1952, [] somewhere to the east of the factory, 25X1
several railroad spurs were being built. These spurs are concealed in the
forest and the public is forbidden to approach them. Their purpose is believed
25X1 to be to remove the goods produced by the factory in case of danger. []
[] the exact location of these spurs.

- 25X1 1. [] date of information 1951, reported that
only 6,000 workers were employed at this plant at the time.

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